

NOAA Updates for the Virginia Coastal Policy Team

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Budget and Appropriations

Annual Budget: The FY22 President's budget requested increases for the National Coastal Zone Management Program, the National Estuarine Research Reserve System, the Coral Reef Conservation Program, and the National Coastal Resilience Fund. Although not as significant of increases, the FY22 House mark also included increases for the Office for Coastal Management's core programs. The Senate mark has yet to be released and it is not clear when the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee will take this up. We expect to start FY22 under a continuing resolution with initial funding under the CR at FY21 levels.

- OCM FY22 President's Budget Request
 - Regional Coastal Resilience Communities of Practice (+\$7.5 Million)
 - Advancing Racial Equity through National Ocean Service Products and Services for Coastal Resilience (+\$9.0 Million)
 - Increasing Community Resilience through Coastal Management Grants (+\$30.0 Million)
 - Place-Based Resilience Training, Education, and Research (+\$14.0 Million)
 - Reducing Climate Threats to Coral Reefs (+\$10.0 Million)
 - Increasing Coastal Resilience through Nature-based Approaches (+\$34 Million)
 - Enterprise Infrastructure Solutions (+\$0.3 Million)
- House FY22 Mark
 - Coastal Zone Management and Services: \$62M (+15.3M)
 - Coastal Management Grants: \$82.5M (+\$4M)
 - National Coastal Resilience Fund (Title IX): \$38M (+4M)
 - Coral Reef Program: \$38M (+5M)
 - National Estuarine Research Reserve System: \$30.5M (+2M)
 - NERRS PAC: \$4M (-\$0.5M)
- Senate FY22 Mark - TBD

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act ([H.R.3684](#)) - [OCM](#) and [CSO](#) Summaries

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act passed the Senate on August 10, 2021, and includes additional resources for the Coastal Management Zone Act, National Estuarine Research Reserves, National Coastal Resilience Fund, and Regional Ocean Partnerships. The House has committed to voting on the bill by/on September 27th.

Amounts over five years (FY22-26):

- Coastal Zone Management Act: \$207M
- National Estuarine Research Reserve System: \$77M
- National Coastal Resilience Fund: \$492M
- Regional Ocean Partnerships: \$56M

Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Summary

Full bill text can be found [here](#) (NOAA starts at p. 2475). All of the numbers below are over a 5 year period unless otherwise noted. This does not include any of the amendments at this time.

“Provided further that the funds made available under this heading of the Act [for NOAA]. The following amounts shall be for the following purposes in equal amounts for each of the fiscal years 2022 through 2026, including for administrative costs, technical support, and oversight, unless stated otherwise--”

"Provided further, That the Secretary may waive or reduce the required non-Federal share for amounts made available under this heading in this Act" (p. 2480, also under NOAA section)

OCM Programs

Coastal Zone Management Act: \$207M

\$207M for habitat restoration projects pursuant to section 310 of the CZMA, including ecosystem conservation pursuant to section 12502 of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (16 U.S.C. 1456-1) (*CELCP*), notwithstanding subsection (g) of that section (*CELCP set-aside for NERRS sites*) (page 2477)

National Estuarine Research Reserve System: \$77M

\$77M for habitat restoration projects through the National Estuarine Research Reserve System (16 U.S.C. 1456c), including ecosystem conservation pursuant to section 12502 of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (16 U.S.C. 1456-1) (*CELCP*) (page 2477)

National Coastal Resilience Fund: \$492M (section 906(c))

\$492M shall be for National Oceans and Coastal Security Fund grants, as authorized under section 906(c) of division O of Public Law 114–113 (page 2476)

Regional Ocean Partnerships: \$56M

\$56M for established Regional Ocean Partnerships (ROPs) to coordinate the interstate and intertribal management of ocean and coastal resources and to implement their priority actions, including to enhance associated sharing and integration of Federal and non-Federal data by ROPs, or their equivalent (page 2478)

CSO Summary of Infrastructure Bill:

<https://mk0coastalstatefuhi5.kinstacdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Infrastructure-Bill-Coastal-Appropriation-Public-Version-1.pdf>

Reconciliation Bills

The House and Senate are considering additional funding, including for NOAA programs, under budget reconciliation bills being developed in both houses. OCM will share more details on those as they become available.

Biden-Harris Administration Priorities and Executive Order Initiatives

Equity Assessments

Executive Order 13985 “Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities through the Federal Government” identified OCM’s Sea Level Rise Viewer, as well as associated data, tools and training, as one of three NOAA efforts to complete an equity assessment and associated action plan. The SLR viewer helps coastal communities understand their risk and vulnerability to sea level rise and coastal flooding impacts to prioritize solutions to enhance their resilience. Identifying underserved, underrepresented, and potentially vulnerable entities and infrastructure in coastal areas, and the local issues relating to climate change and sea level rise, are important first steps to ensure service equity and the capacity of some populations to plan for, mitigate, and adapt to hazards. The equity assessment was just completed and the action plan to address the identified issues and barriers will be finalized in early FY22.

America the Beautiful Initiative

Section 216(a) of Executive Order 14008 - the “America the Beautiful initiative - calls for the U.S. to conserve at least 30 percent of U.S. lands and waters by 2030. Much of the science and conservation that NOAA undertakes under its statutory mandates will help support this goal through an inclusive and locally led effort. NOAA has held several stakeholder listening sessions to get input on how this initiative should be implemented. Priority actions include expansion of the National Marine Sanctuary and National Estuarine Research Reserve Systems, including the designation of reserves in Connecticut, Louisiana, and Wisconsin.

The [Conserving and Restoring America the Beautiful report](#) calls for the development of a Conservation and Stewardship Atlas To develop and track a clear baseline of information on lands and waters that have already been conserved or restored. NOAA is contributing to this interagency effort by helping to develop an interagency framework and approach, and by providing data from existing databases that can be filtered to identify areas that meet the criteria for inclusion in the baseline.

Ocean Planning News

There seems to be some momentum around Regional Ocean Planning (ROP), both via a reauthorization bill that allows up to \$10M to be spent on existing or newly formed ROPs (and tribes) across a wide range of topics that would cover MARCO's interests, and the proposed infrastructure bill language on funds for existing ROPs (\$56M). This may be positive news for continued VA CZMP participation in MARCO.

In other ROP news, the third round of data sharing initiative funds (in OCM's base budget) have been moved out to ROPs via OCM's geospatial contract totaling about \$245K per region. Here's a short blurb from the SOW from MARCO and NROC on FY21 plans: "In the first few months of the FY21 funding period, MARCO and NROC will engage in a prioritization exercise to determine the specific use of FY21 funds using the recommendations from the FY19 project on commercial fisheries data, the work plan and priorities expressed in the FY20 project on marine life data updates, the annual portal work plans, data priorities that are identified during ongoing planning and siting activities, and the interest from both ROPs to improve recreational data. It is likely that MARCO and NROC will collaborate on the use of funds to advance mutual data priorities. It is also possible that each ROP will decide to use some funds for data needs that are only a priority for one ROP."

Digital Coast Academy Trainings & Learning Products

Climate Adaptation Training Opportunities

- [Climate Adaptation Planning Essentials](#), Live sessions November 30 and December 2 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. (Eastern) [REGISTER HERE](#)

Risk Communication Training Opportunities

- [Three Steps to Better Risk Communication](#), Live sessions September 15, September 29, and October 13 from 2 to 4 p.m. (Eastern) [REGISTER HERE](#)
- [Seven Best Practices for Risk Communication](#), Live session October 28 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. (Eastern) [REGISTER HERE](#)

Social Science for Coastal Managers Training Opportunities

- [Using Social Science for Stakeholder Engagement](#)
September 27, 2021, 2 to 5 p.m. (Eastern) [REGISTER HERE](#)
- [Writing Effective Survey Questions](#)
September 28, 2021, 2 to 4 p.m. (Eastern) [REGISTER HERE](#)

Coastal Economy Training Opportunities

- [Economic Guidance for Coastal Management Professionals](#)
September 30, 2021, 2 to 3:30 p.m. (Eastern) [REGISTER HERE](#)

Interested in more instructor-led training opportunities?

- You can stay up to date on all the scheduled virtual courses by visiting the [training calendar](#). Many of the training resources offered through the NOAA Office for Coastal Management have continuing education credits for professional associations.
- And if you don't see what you are interested in, please inquire about scheduling or hosting a training session. For more information, contact Danielle.Boudreau@noaa.gov (Dani).

NEW On-demand Products

- [Economic Guidance Self-Guided Module: Using Economics to Inform Decisions](#). In this self-guided module, you will learn about different economic approaches that can be used in project valuation. The module will provide you with key terms, concepts, step by step instructions, guidance documents and other resources. This resource will help you choose the appropriate economic analysis method based on your project objectives.
- [Nature-Based Solutions for Coastal Hazards: The Basics](#) (self-guided training module). Learn an approach for identifying your community's coastal hazard issues, ecosystem services that can reduce hazard impacts, and green infrastructure practices that can provide those services. Develop the beginnings of a community green infrastructure plan. Also available in Spanish: [Soluciones basadas en la naturaleza para hacer frente a amenazas costeras: Conceptos básicos](#).

Learning Services Available for Coastal Communities

In addition to trainings and online resources, we provide additional regional services to support on-the-ground learning by connecting local partners with new information and skills. For more information and to obtain assistance, contact Danielle.Boudreau@noaa.gov.